

# **JOBS and OPPORTUNITY**

## **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**



## **LEGISLATION**

[Release](#)

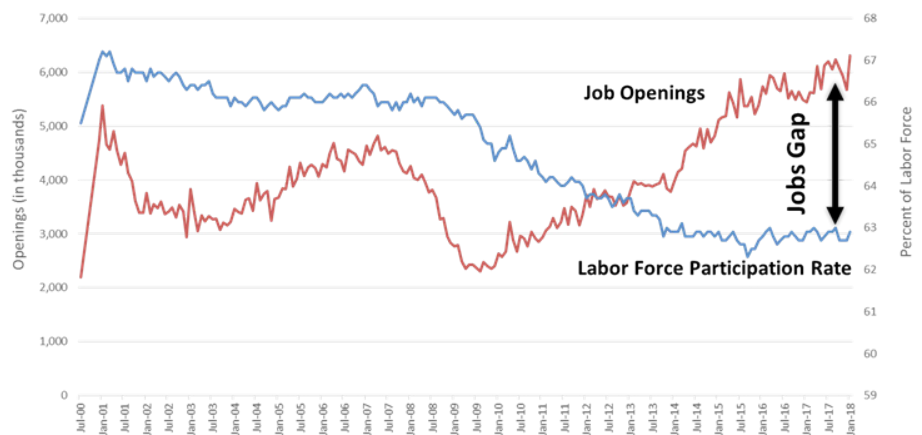
[Summary](#)

[The Bill](#)

The **"jobs gap"** is the **difference between employers' demand for workers, shown as job openings, and the declining number of individuals in the workforce, shown as the labor force participation rate.** The space in the middle separating those two lines the **jobs gap**.

### **The "Jobs Gap"**

**Labor Force Participation Rate and Total Job Openings  
2000 - 2018**



## **HEARINGS**

### **"Geography of Poverty"**

February 15th, 2017

[Chairman Smith Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: America's Changing Poverty Map](#)

### **"Opportunities for Youth and Young Adults to Break the Cycle of Poverty"**

May 17th, 2017

[Chairman Smith Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: Ways to Help Young Adults Move Up the Economic Ladder](#)

### **"Missing from the Labor Force: Examining Declining Employment among Working-Age Men"**

September 6th, 2017

[Chairman Smith Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: Bringing Working-Age Men Back into Labor Force](#)

### **"Jobs and Opportunity: Local Perspectives on the Jobs Gap"**

April 12th, 2018

[Chairman Smith Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: Local Efforts to Addressing the Jobs Gap](#)

### **"Jobs and Opportunity: Federal Perspectives on the Jobs Gap"**

April 17th, 2018

[Chairman Brady Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: How the Federal Government Is Addressing the Jobs Gap](#)

### **"Jobs and Opportunity: Employer Perspectives on the Jobs Gap"**

April 25th, 2018

[Chairman Smith Opening Statement](#)

[Blog: How Employers are Addressing the Jobs Gap](#)

# **JOBS** *and* **OPPORTUNITY** **COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**



## **Jobs and Opportunity with Benefits and Services (JOBS) for Success Act**

### **WHY WE NEED THE JOBS FOR SUCCESS ACT:**

- **A booming economy after tax reform requires more workers.** With one of the most competitive tax codes in the world and a growing economy, it is important that businesses are able to hire the workers needed to meet demand.
- **Too many people are on the sidelines.** There is a jobs gap in our country— millions of people are out of work and millions of jobs need to be filled. Right now, there are 7 million men missing from the workforce. This is unacceptable. These reforms will help move more people into full-time, good-paying jobs and keep them there.
- **This bill restores the promise reformed in 1996 under Clinton and Newt Gingrich.** Since 1996 many states have strayed from the intent of the reforms under that law, and lost sight of what this program was intended to do: get those off the sidelines and into the workforce—for good. The 1996 reforms focused primarily on women, but these reforms will focus on women and men—it's time to find those 7 million men and bring them back into our economy. Our businesses need them.
- **Americans support work as a key component of welfare and almost half the country believes we need major welfare reform.**
  - 90% of voters (97% of Republicans, 92% of independents, 90% of decided voters, 85% of suburban women) support requiring able-bodied adults to work, train, or volunteer at least part time in order to receive welfare.
  - 46% of voters (74% of Republicans, 41% of independents, 45% of undecided voters, 40% suburban women) believe the welfare system needs major fixes. (Foundation for Government Accountability)

### **WHAT IS THE JOBS FOR SUCCESS ACT:**

- **The JOBS for Success Act reforms and renames the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to Jobs and Opportunity with Benefits and Services (JOBS).** What makes this reform significant is that this legislation reforms the program to ensure states are effectively using funding to deliver outcomes— Americans getting and keeping a job.
- **Ensures no one gets ignored or is left on the sidelines.** Right now, there are 7 million men missing from the workforce. While the 1996 reforms were aimed at helping women, this legislation is geared towards both men and women and demands that states help every person get and keep a job. There are no “lost causes” in the reformed program.
- **Makes sure states are focused on real outcomes**—getting and keeping a job. The goal is universal and clear: people must get and keep a job. Success will no longer be measured by participation. The legislation gives states more flexibility, but also injects transparency so that states are required to report on their program's effectiveness, which allows taxpayers to see how their money is being used and gives states the ability to compare and contrast programs to see what is working and what isn't.
- **Helps poor families, those that need these funds the most.** The legislation requires that funds go to those who make under 200% of poverty line. This is about helping the truly needy find work.
- **Uses funds to support work.** The funds that are used by the program will help people get and keep a job. The legislation includes redirecting existing funds to provide for additional childcare and job training, so people can keep the job they get. It also increases case management services to address the needs of the whole family on their path to economic self-sufficiency.

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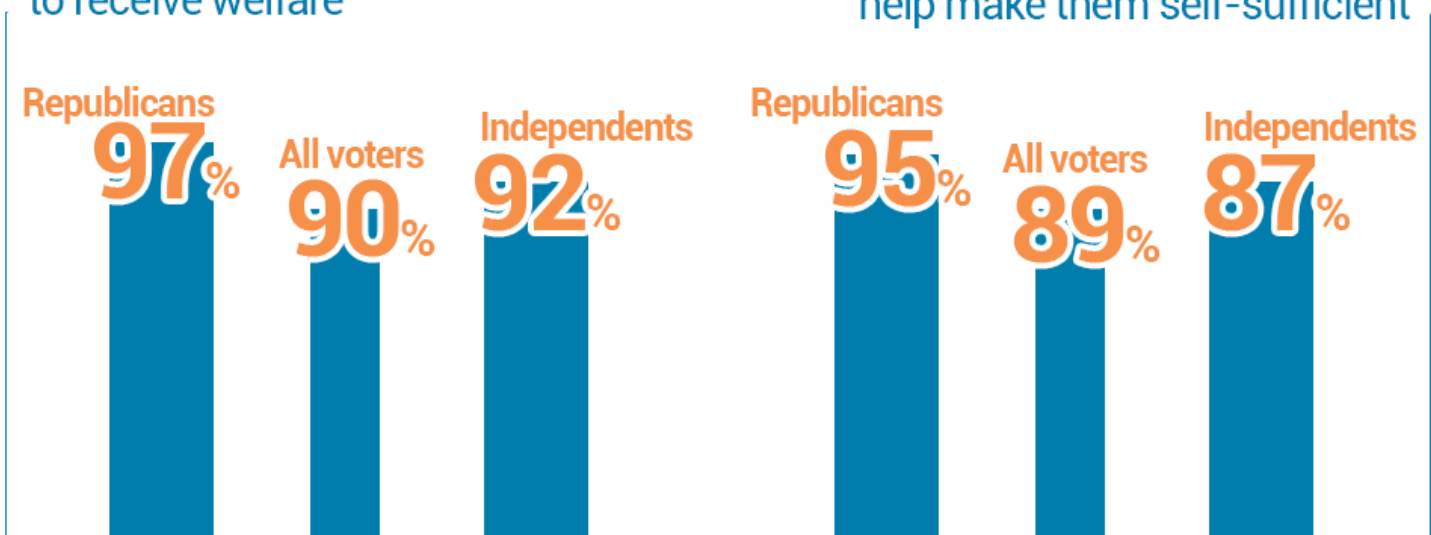
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## **VOTERS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT**

**Voters support requiring**  
able-bodied adults to **work**, train, or  
volunteer at least part-time in order  
to receive welfare

**Voters believe work requirements**  
**move Americans off welfare** and  
help make them self-sufficient



**Jobs and Opportunity with Benefits and Services (JOBS) for Success Act:**

## **RESTORING THE PROMISE OF 1996**

- ◆ Expecting work or preparation for work in exchange for benefits
- ◆ Help is not just cash, but services
- ◆ Result: Mothers went to work, caseloads fell and child poverty went down

States have since strayed from the original intent of the 1996 reforms. **Our goal is to refocus welfare on work and holds states accountable for results.**

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## **IMPROVING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE FOR WORKING PARENTS**

Providing parents access to child care is an important part of supporting work. Congress recently increased its investment in child care discretionary spending by 50 percent or \$2.4 billion in FYs 2018 and 2019.

The JOBS for Success Act of 2018 would strengthen this commitment by increasing mandatory funding for child care by more than \$600 million per year and would allow for up to half of a State's allocation to be used for child care, adding potential for another \$5 billion to support child care for low-income working families.

In all, the **JOBS for Success Act of 2018** would significantly increase the amount Federal funds available to support child care to more than **\$16.6 billion annually**. This is another sign of our commitment to providing the supportive services necessary to get more people off the sidelines, so all families can benefit from America's strong economy and achieve the American dream.

<b>Federal Funding for Child Care</b>			
	<b>FY17</b>	<b>FY18 Current Law</b>	<b>FY19 with JOBS</b>
<b>Mandatory</b>	\$2.9B	\$2.9B	\$3.5B
<b>Discretionary</b>	\$2.4B	\$4.8B	\$4.8B
<b>TANF</b>	\$2.7B	\$2.7B	\$8.3B
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.0B</b>	<b>\$10.4B</b>	<b>\$16.6B</b>
<b>Number of children served</b>	<i>1.4 million</i>	<i>1.4 million</i>	<i>2.2-2.4 million</i>

\*Applied December 2017 estimates: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/fy-2016-preliminary-data-table-1>.

\*\*Applied FY 2017 and FY 2018 costs per child.

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## **GRAPHIC**

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### **THE JOBS FOR SUCCESS ACT**

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